



Domestic violence and emotional abuse are behaviors used by one person in a relationship to control another person. Partners may be married or not married; heterosexual, gay, or lesbian; living together, separated or dating. Although emotional, psychological and financial abuse are not always criminal behaviors, they are forms of abuse and can lead to criminal violence.

Orders of Protection

An Order of Protection (sometimes referred to as a restraining order) is a court order signed by a judge which prohibits or restricts an offender from contacting you if you are a victim. The order may limit the offender's communication with you or require that the offender stay away from you. Orders of Protection are valid for 12 months. If you are involved in court proceedings for a divorce or a custody matter, you can obtain an Order of Protection from Superior Court. Other types of orders are issued by city courts or Justice Courts.

All orders must be delivered in person, or "served," to the offender. This can be done by a private process server for a fee, or by a local police department or sheriff's office free of charge. After an order has been served, the server files an affidavit of service with the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office. This verifies that the offender has been notified of the order, and allows law enforcement agencies to determine if the offender does anything to violate the order.

Keep a copy of the Order of Protection with you at all times.

Provide copies of the order to your employer, landlord, schools and childcare providers. It is essential that you immediately report any violations of the order to the police so that the criminal justice system can provide you and your family with the protection you need.



Safety Planning

Abuse comes in many forms – physical, emotional, sexual and financial. It is important that you make plans now to keep you and your children safe in the event you find yourself in an abusive situation. The following information can help you develop a safety plan of action.

AT HOME

- Do not allow yourself to become trapped in rooms with weapons or only one exit (i.e. a kitchen, bathroom, etc.).
- Talk with your children about safe places to hide or where to go for help. Consider teaching them a code word that you can use that signals them to call 911 in situations where an abuser may be present.
- Set up an emergency signal with trusted friends and neighbors that will alert them to call for help.
- Place important papers (such as birth certificates, custody papers, bank account information, identification/citizenship information, insurance cards, social security cards and school records) in a safe location.
- Pack a bag with items you will need if you need to leave quickly, such as clothes, medicines, toys, cash, etc. Keep the bag in a safe, easily accessible place.
- Make copies of all important keys.

AT WORK

- Notify your employer of the situation.
- Provide building security personnel with a photograph of the abuser and a copy of your Order of Protection.
- Screen your calls.
- Request an escort to your car or public transportation.
- Vary the route you take home.
- Consider purchasing an extra cell phone for your car.
- Carry a whistle/noise maker or personal alarm.

AT CHILDREN'S SCHOOL

- Notify the school of the situation.
- Let school administration know to whom your children can be released.
- Provide the school with a photograph of the abuser.
- Tell school personnel not to divulge your address or phone number to anyone without your approval.
- At Children's School
- Notify the school of the situation.
- Let school administration know to whom your children can be released.
- Provide the school with a photograph of the abuser.
- Tell school personnel not to divulge your address or phone number to anyone without your approval.

Domestic Violence Early Lease Termination

Arizona law allows tenants who are the victims of domestic violence to terminate a rental agreement without incurring penalties. In order to do this, the tenant must:

- Provide a copy of a protective order that has been issued to the tenant. The landlord may also request a receipt of a signed statement that the order has been submitted to an authorized officer of the court for service.
- Provide a copy of a written departmental report from a law enforcement agency stating that the tenant notified the agency that he or she is a victim of domestic violence.

A tenant who is a victim of domestic violence may also require that a landlord install new locks, rekey existing locks or replace the entire mechanism to the tenant's dwelling if the tenant pays for the cost of installing, changing or replacing the locks.

For complete information regarding early lease termination for domestic violence victims, please refer to A.R.S. § 33-1318.



FOR ALL EMERGENCIES PLEASE CALL 911

Resources

SELF SERVICE CENTERS/HOTLINE

Family Violence Prevention Center
Phoenix Location
101 West Jefferson, First Floor
(602) 506-5553
City of Phoenix Hotline - (602) 262-7120
Mesa Location
222 East Javelina, First Floor

SHELTERS

24-hour Shelter Hotline
(800) 799-7739 or (602) 263-8900

Chrysalis
(602) 955-9059
NoAbuse.org

Chicanos Por La Causa
(602) 269-1515
CPLC.org

A New Leaf
West Valley - (623) 939-6798
East Valley - (480) 969-4024
Valleywide - (800) 799-7739
TurnANewLeaf.org

New Life Center
(623) 932-4404
NewLifeCtr.org

Sojourner
(602) 244-0089
SojournerCenter.org

LEGAL RESOURCES

Community Legal Services
(602) 258-3434
Family Lawyer's Assistance Project
(602) 506-7948
Arizona Voice for Crime Victims
(480) 600-2661

ADVOCACY CENTERS

Center Against Family Violence (Mesa)
(480) 644-4075
Glendale Family Advocacy Center
(623) 930-3720
Family Advocacy Center (Phoenix)
(602) 534-2120
Scottsdale Family Advocacy Center
(480) 312-6309
Southwest Family Advocacy Center
(623) 333-7900
ACFAN.net

OTHER SERVICES

Address Confidentiality Program
602-542-1653
AZSOS.gov/services/acp
Community Information and Referral
(800) 352-3792
Child Protective Services
(888) 767-2445
Adult Protective Services
(800) 767-2385
Senior Help Line
(602) 264-4357
National Domestic Violence Hotline
(800) 799-SAFE (7233)
Fresh Start Women's Resource Center
(602) 252-8494
Maricopa County Attorney's Office
Victim Compensation
(602) 506-4955
Maricopa County Attorney's Office
Victim Services
(602) 506-8522
Arizona Attorney General's Office
Civil Rights Division
azag.gov/civil-rights
602-542-5025